Introduction

ITALAE was established in 1999 to bring together the Italian institutions that had adopted ALEPH.
Since January 2007, the Association is open (as in the model provided by IGeLU) to all institutions that use Ex Libris products.

Members: 40 (of which 26 are Universities)
Membership fee: 250 € (it covers group activities and projects)
Products distribution:
- ALEPH (38)
- SFX (23)
- MetaLib (16)
- MetaLibPlus with Primo (8)
- DigiTool (1)
- Primo (12)
- Bx (4)

Since 2009 the local support is provided by the Italian subsidiary of Ex Libris (Ex Libris Italy)

Activities and Events 2013-2014

After the 2013 IGeLU Conference, ITALE has organized on November 15th, at the University of Perugia, a seminar on the following topic: ALMA: a road map, with the participation of Alan Oliver (Ex Libris Business Development Director); it was a preparatory meeting devoted to ALMA Early Adopter Program in Italy
At the beginning of the current year the following institutions became part of the program
University of Roma Tor Vergata
Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa
University of Camerino
University of Udine

In February 2014, consequently to the creation at each institution of a specific working group, there has been a first meeting on the occasion of the kick-off of the program, with the analysts of Ex Libris, hosted by the University of Roma Tor Vergata. The project continued with the scheduled webinars (phase Academy): the exchange of information and observations between working groups and Ex Libris has been very effective and timely. A second meeting of all participants will be held at the University of Udine in late September; afterwards, the phase of the agreed implementations will begin. In the second half of 2015 data migrations will be performed.
In July the University of Roma Tre joined the Group of the Early Adopters in order to study and to experiment the creation of a network zone in Alma.
In the meanwhile, in Bologna, there have been some meetings between the Ex Libris system administrators and the representatives of some services widely used in Italian universities. The goal was to develop interoperability process between ALMA and some systems used for the management of accounting (U-GOV), Document Delivery (Nilde) and serials management (ACNP).

On May 12th, 2014, a conference was held in Rome for the presentation of the project “the interoperability between ILL SBN (National Network for interlibrary loan) and ILL2 of ALEPH500 via ISO-ILL”. This project started a few years ago and it has been strongly supported by the Association.

Moreover, Primo, the discovery tool of Ex Libris, marked important milestones in Italy during the first six months of 2014, registering the adoption by the University of Ferrara, the Library All Digital of Campi Bisenzio, the University of Bergamo, the European University Institute in Fiesole and the online launch of the Archive of the editorial production of Lombardy.

**Short-term programs**

In November 27th, the University of Florence will host the Meeting of the members of the Association who will have to renew the Steering Committee for the period 2015-2017.

**Envolvement in IGeLU**

Guido Badalamenti (University of Siena) is member of the Steering Committee as IGeLU Treasurer.

In an effort to promote the participation of ITALE institutions at the Annual IGeLU Conference, since 2012 ITALE supports the Conference expenses (travel, accommodation, registration fee) to staff members of two/three institutions.

**Contacts**

Steering Committee 2012-14

Chair: Liliana Bernardis (University of Udine)

liliana.bernardis@uniud.it

Member: Fernanda Canepa (Berio Public Library, Genoa)

fcanepa@comune.genova.it

Member: Silvia Ceccarelli (University of Insubria)

silvia.ceccarelli@uninsubria.it

Member: Simonetta Pagnini (University of Florence)

simonetta.pagnini@unifi.it

Member: Marta Putti (University of Siena)

puttim@unisi.it

**Information and documentation**

Information about ITALE, technical documentation, announcements can be found at our web site: [http://www.italie.it](http://www.italie.it)

On behalf of the Italian Users Group

Liliana Bernardis